

## GENERAL NOTES.

## WIDOW HUMMER.

BY FRANK BRUEN.

May 30, 1900.—The writer and his bird-partner, while taking an "all day with the birds," paused to eat their picnic breakfast in a but little used store quarry, just off the the country road. There was a forest upon the east, and bushes, small trees, and a small apple orchard formed the remaining boundaries. Perched upon the granite walls we had an admirable place to see and hear the many birds. Scarlet Tanagers (whose nest we found later), Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Redstarts and Ovenbirds, Chestnut-sided Warblers and Wood Thrushes were particularly in evidence.

All at once a male humming bird appeared upon the dead top of an apple tree, a female being seen soon afterwards upon one of the steel guy ropes attached to the derrick. During that summer we stopped many times to visit Mr. and Mrs. Hummer, and although we never found the nest, one or the other bird was always in evidence on the favorite perches.

Next year we went there again to renew our acquaintance, and perchance to find the little home; but alas, sorrow had come to the poor little female and her mate was never seen; but the pathetic little figure of the faithful, lonely widow was nearly always seen perched upon one of the ropes or the apple tree. Many were our queries. Had the male deserted his mate? Was he dead? We preferred to think him dead.

In 1902, we were eager to know if the little "widow," as we always called her, would still remain faithful to her lost love—but we visited the place in vain—she was seen no more by us. Had she died or gone off with a new mate? *Quien sabe?*

Bristol, Conn., Dec. 1904.

## THE LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH IN PHILADELPHIA IN SUMMER.

BY CHARLES H. ROGERS.

On June 14th, the only day this year, so far, that I have hunted on the Wissahickon Creek, I found two of this species (*Seiurus motacilla*) on the left bank of that stream, just above the Valley Green Hotel. With beaks full of food they chirped continually in protest at my presence, and altogether showed plainly that they had young in the immediate vicinity.

A nest recorded by Mr. H. K. Jamison (O. & O., 1891) is the only other breeding record inside the city line with which I am acquainted. It also was on the Wissahickon.

Crosswicks, N. J.